

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 VIENNA 03446 291310Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

IO-13 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15

STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01 PRS-01 /147 W

-----300753Z 050201 /13

R 291459Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1569

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENNA 3446

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OPEC

SUBJ: OPEC OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

REF: VIENNA 3304

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1. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, OPEC'S ACTING  
INFORMATION OFFICE CHIEF, KANAYOCHUKURI OZOEMENE, COMMENTED  
ON THE LAST ECB MEETING, OPEC VIEW OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S  
ENERGY MESSAGE, AND THE TWO-TIERED PRICE SYSTEM.

2. WITH RESPECT TO THE LAST ECONOMIC COMMISSION BOARD  
SESSION, WHICH RAN FROM APRIL 18-21 IN VIENNA OZOEMENE

CONFIRMED THAT THE PARTICIPANTS HAD AGAIN DISCUSSED RELATIVE VALUES OF OPEC CRUDE AND OTHER "TECHNICAL MATTERS". HE WOULD NOT COMMENT ON SPECIFIC POINTS, BUT DID STATE THAT NO IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS HAD BEEN MADE TO BE PASSED ON TO THE STOCKHOLM MINISTERIAL. THE ECB IS SCHEDULED TO CONVENE AGAIN IN EARLY JULY SHORTLY BEFORE THE MINISTER'S CONFERENCE. ACCORDING TO OZOEMENE, ALL OPEC MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THE ECB MEETING EXCEPT THE UAE WHICH WAS ABSENT FOR "TECHNICAL REASONS" DEVOID OF POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

3. OZOEMENE SAID THE CARTER ENERGY MESSAGE, WHICH EMPHASIZED A NUMBER OF POINTS OPEC HAD BEEN ADVOCATING FOR YEARS, WAS BEING STUDIED IN THE SECRETARIAT. ALTHOUGH IT WOULD PREPARE AN ANALYSIS FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE MINISTERS, OZOEMENE DOUBTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT WOULD MAKE ANY OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON THE MESSAGE SINCE THAT WAS A MATTER FOR THE INDIVIDUAL MINISTERS.

4. IN CONCLUDING, OZOEMENE SAID HE SAW NO NEED FOR A SPECIAL MINISTERIAL PRIOR TO STOCKHOLM BECAUSE THE TWO-TIERED SYSTEM IS HOLDING UP WELL BECAUSE OF CURRENT HIGH DEMAND. ALTHOUGH OZOEMENE CHARACTERIZED THIS REMARK AS PERSONAL, WE BELIEVE IT ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE SECRETARIAT'S VIEWS AS TO THE LIKELIHOOD OF A PRICE COMPROMISE PRIOR TO JULY, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE SUCH A NEW SPOKESMAN WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO GO OUT ON A LIMB ON AN ISSUE OF SUCH SIGNIFICANCE. MEEHAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** ENRG, US, OPEC, (OZOEMENE, KANAYOCHUKURI)  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009